

MESSAGE

FROM

THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES,

(In answer to a resolution of the Senate,)

CALLING FOR

*Copies of instructions to the American minister in England in relation to the occupation of the Territory of Oregon.*

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FEBRUARY 20, 1845.

Read, referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations, and ordered to be printed.

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*To the Senate of the United States :*

In answer to the resolution of the Senate of the 11th December, 1844, requesting the President "to lay before the Senate, if in his judgment that may be done without prejudice to the public interests, a copy of any instructions which may have been given by the Executive to the American minister in England, on the subject of the title to and occupation of the Territory of Oregon, since the 4th day of March, 1841 ; also, a copy of any correspondence which may have passed between this Government and that of Great Britain, or between either of the two Governments and the minister of the other, in relation to that subject, since that time," I have to say that, in my opinion, as the negotiation is still pending, the information sought for cannot be communicated without prejudice to the public service.

I deem it, however, proper to add, that considerable progress has been made in the discussion, which has been carried on in a very amicable spirit between the two Governments ; and that there is reason to hope that it may be terminated, and the negotiation be brought to a close within a short period.

I have delayed answering the resolution, under the expectation, expressed in my annual message, that the negotiation would have been terminated before the close of the present session of Congress, and that the information called for by the resolution of the Senate might be communicated.

JOHN TYLER.

WASHINGTON, February 19, 1845.

